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DOCKET NO.: S1459.70090US00

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

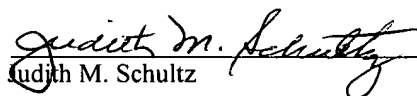
Applicant: Akihisa Inatani et al.  
Serial No.: 10/824,947  
Confirmation No.: 7277  
Filed: April 15, 2004  
For: DISK CENTERING SYSTEM

Examiner: Not yet known  
Art Unit: 2652

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**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.8(a)**

The undersigned hereby certifies that this document is being placed in the United States mail with first-class postage attached, addressed to MAIL STOP AMENDMENT, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the 21<sup>ST</sup> day of September, 2004.

  
Judith M. Schultz

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**MAIL STOP AMENDMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

STATEMENT FILED PURSUANT TO THE DUTY OF  
DISCLOSURE UNDER 37 CFR §§1.56, 1.97 AND 1.98

Sir:

Pursuant to the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §§1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, the Applicant requests consideration of this Information Disclosure Statement.

PART I: Compliance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97

This Information Disclosure Statement has been filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits in the above-identified case.

No fee or certification is required.

PART II: Information Cited

The Applicant hereby makes of record in the above-identified application the information listed on the attached form PTO-1449 (modified). The order of presentation of the references should not be construed as an indication of the importance of the references.

The Applicant hereby makes the following additional information of record in the above-identified application.

1. The Applicant would like to bring to the Examiner's attention the following co-pending applications that may contain subject matter related to this application:

<u>Serial No.</u>	<u>Filing Date</u>	<u>Inventor(s)</u>
10/816,806	April 2, 2004	Hideaki Tsutsumi et al.
10/822,556	April 12, 2004	Masashi Enomoto et al.
10/819,575	April 7, 2004	Naoki Inoue et al.

2. The Applicant would like to bring to the Examiner's attention the enclosed search report from a corresponding International or Foreign National Application.

PART IV: Remarks

Documents cited anywhere in the Information Disclosure Statement are enclosed unless otherwise indicated. It is respectfully requested that:

1. The Examiner consider completely the cited information, along with any other information, in reaching a determination concerning the patentability of the present claims;
2. The enclosed form PTO-1449 be signed by the Examiner to evidence that the cited information has been fully considered by the Patent and Trademark Office during the examination of this application;
3. The citations for the information be printed on any patent which issues from this application.

By submitting this Information Disclosure Statement, the Applicant makes no representation that a search has been performed, of the extent of any search performed, or that more relevant information does not exist.

Serial No.: 10/824,947  
Conf. No.: 7277

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Art Unit: 2652

By submitting this Information Disclosure Statement, the Applicant makes no representation that the information cited in the Statement is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(b).

By submitting this Information Disclosure Statement, the Applicant makes no representation that the information cited in the Statement is, or is considered to be, in fact, prior art as defined by 35 U.S.C. §102.

Notwithstanding any statements by the Applicant, the Examiner is urged to form his own conclusion regarding the relevance of the cited information.

An early and favorable action is hereby requested.

Respectfully submitted,  
*Akihisa Inatani et al., Applicants*

By: *Randy J. Pritzker*  
Randy J. Pritzker, Reg. No. 35,986  
Wolf, Greenfield & Sacks, P.C.  
600 Atlantic Avenue  
Boston, Massachusetts 02210-2206  
Telephone: (617) 646-8000

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Date: September 21, 2004  
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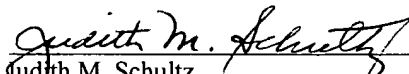
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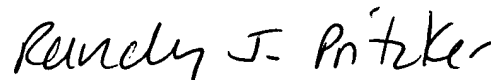
Transmitted herewith are the following documents:

- Information Disclosure Statement
- PTO Form 1449 with cited references
- Copy of International Search Report dated August 11, 2004
- Return Receipt Postcard

If the enclosed papers are considered incomplete, the Mail Room and/or the Application Branch is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned at (617) 646-8000, Boston, Massachusetts.

A check is not enclosed. If a fee is required, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 23/2825. A duplicate of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,  
*Akihisa Inatani et al., Applicants*

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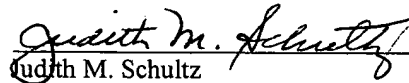
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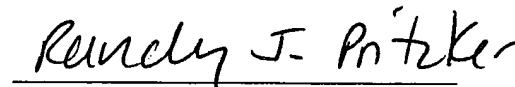
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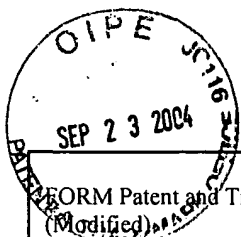
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Date: September 21, 2004  
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FORM Patent and Trademark Office-1449/A and B  
(Modified)

### INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

Sheet 1 of 1

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FILING DATE: April 15, 2004      CONFIRMATION NO.: 7277  
APPLICANT: Akihisa Inatani et al.  
GROUP ART UNIT: 2652      EXAMINER: Not yet known

#### U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner's Initials	Cite No.	U.S. Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication or of issue of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY
		Number	Kind Code		

#### FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner's Initials	Cite No.	Foreign Patent Document			Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document (not necessary)	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Translation (Y/N)
		Office/ Country	Number	Kind Code			
	1	Europe	EP 1 100 086	A2	Sony Corporation	05-16-2001	Y
	2	Europe	EP 1 152 418	A1	Sony Corporation	11-07-2001	Y
	3	Europe	EP 1 058 260	A1	Sanyo Electric Co., Ltd.	12-06-2000	Y

#### OTHER ART — NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner's Initials	Cite No	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS) title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, relevant page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	Translation (Y/N)

EXAMINE R

DATE CONSIDERED

#EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered.  
Include copy of this form with next communication to Applicant.

\*a copy of this reference is not provided as it was previously cited by or submitted to the office in a prior application, Serial No. \_\_, filed \_\_, and relied upon for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. 120 (continuation, continuation-in-part, and divisional applications).

[NOTE - The Office hereby waives the requirement under 37 CFR 1.98 (a)(2)(i) for submitting a copy of each cited U.S. patent and each U.S. patent application publication for all U.S. national patent applications filed after June 30, 2003 and for all international applications that have entered the national stage under 35 USC 371 after June 30, 2003. See 37 CFR 1.491(b). For all patent applications filed on or before June 30, 2003, copies of cited U.S. patents and patent application publications are still required unless an eIDS is filed. Copies of all other patent(s), publication(s), or other information listed must still be provided, even if it was previously submitted to, or cited by, the U.S. Patent Office in an earlier application, unless the earlier application is identified by the IDS and is relied upon for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. §120, and the copy was provided in the earlier application.]